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1 March 1979

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT : Meeting of CIA Working Group on Crisis
Management and Emergency Arrangements

REFERENCE: Memo from NIO/W, dated 23 February 1979
(NFAC 093379), same subject

1. The first session of this working group was held Wednesday, 28 February 1979. Mr. Richard Lehman chaired the meeting and provided information on the group's purpose. These working sessions to improve crisis management support to the DCI are prompted by four recent developments.

--Crisis management planning is closely related to the responsibilities of the newly formed DCI's Warning Working Group, chaired by the NIO/W.

--The retirement of the Director of the CIA Operations Center and the merger of that component with the Current Reporting Group into the Office of Current Operations have changed the mission orientation and staff resources of the former Operations Center, particularly emergency planning activities.

--The crises in Iran and China/Vietnam make it appropriate to review and amend the Cord Meyer Committee's Checklist of Intelligence Community Actions During Crises, dated January 1977.

--The Administration itself recognizes the strategic vulnerability of US command and control systems and has set in motion a major effort to improve national emergency planning.

2. Mr. Lehman advised the group that its work confronts issues on two levels. First, there are immediate Community crisis management arrangements and operating procedures that can be reviewed and improved upon, as necessary. Second, those issues that involve the Agency's transition from crisis to war are complicated and long range in their resolution.

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These include the DCI's role in wartime, the Command Relationship Agreement, and subsequent transfer of Agency resources to military control.

3. Actions:

--The Chairman appointed [redacted]
[redacted] D/OCO, the Acting CIA Emergency Coordinator to provide temporary continuity for established liaison relationships with the Federal Preparedness Agency.

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--Each participant will prepare a selected inventory of crisis management and emergency planning activities in his component which require classification and accountability.

--All will review the Cord Meyer checklist to determine its accuracy and recommend changes.

4. Roster of Participants:

Dick Lehman, Chairman



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Group Secretary

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